Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19

SAJ-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 /157 W ----- 066120

P R 080945Z SEP 74 FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA TO SECSTATE PRIORITY 1579 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN USMISSION BERLIN AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

CONFIDENTIAL SOFIA 1599

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, ETRN, BU

SUBJECT: PAA BULGARIAN OVERFLIGHTS

REF: BERLIN 1545 AND PREVIOUS

- 1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN TELEX CONTACT WITH PAA'S PRAGUE OFFICE RE BULGARIAN REFUSAL GRANT OVERFLIGHT PERMISSION FOR PAA 327 (ASSUME SAME AS 497 USED IN REFTEL). PAA PRAGUE NEGLECTED TO TELL US THAT F HIGHT WAS ORIGINATING IN BERLIN AND INFORMED THAT DAN AIR AND LAKER FLIGHTS ORIGINATED IN HANNOVER. EMBASSY NOT KNOWING BERLIN INVOLVED, INFORMED PAA PRAGUE THAT IT BELIEVED OVERFLIGHT (SEPT 7 NOT 6) CANCELLED BIAUSE OF ARRIVAL DURING DAY OF HIGH LEVEL OFFICIAL VISITORS INCLUDING PODGORNY COMING TO SOFIA FOR 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, (THIS REGARD, ALL GOVT OFFICES CLOSED AND WILL NOT BE BACK IN OPERATION UNTIL SEPT 11.). EMBASSY SUGGESTED PAA PRAGUE RENEW REQUEST IN A COUPLE HOURS. HAVE HEARD NOTHING FURTHER FROM PRAGUE OFFICE.
- 2. IF PAA WANTS OVERFLY BULGARIAN TERRITORY AND IS NOT SIMPLY

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TRYING TO PRESSURIZE BULGARIANS TO CHANGE POLICY RE BERLIN,

SUGGEST IT KEEP BERLIN OFFICE OUT OF PICTURE ENTIRELY AND HAVE PRAGUE OR ANY OF ITS WEST GERMAN OFFICES HANDLE REQUESTS TO BULGARIANS. ONCE BERLIN ENTERS PICTURE REFUSAL CAN BE PREDICTED. WE DO NOT SHY AWAY FROM DESK POUNDING AND QUITE PREPARED TO PROTEST. HOWEVER, IT IS MATTER OF WHAT NEEDS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED - OVERFLIGHTS OR FRUITLESS PROTEST. HERZ

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Subject: PAA BULGARIAN OVERFLIGHTS

TAGS: PGOV, ETRN, BU, PANAM

To: STATE

Type: TE

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